

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
U.S. Serial No.: 09/783,354
Title: Orthogonally Ambiguous Carpet Tile

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0016] with the following amended paragraph:

[0016] The pattern produced on web 22 produces tiles with shapes that appear randomly positioned on the tile. Only shapes having certain characteristics are usable. First, at least some of the shapes must have straight sides parallel to the "machine" and "cross-machine" direction of the web 22, and therefore parallel to the tile edges. For instance, shape 32 in FIG. 1 has a straight side 34 parallel to longitudinal partition line 24 and therefore parallel to the edge of tile 1 that will be defined by longitudinal partition line 24. Similarly, shape 32 has a straight side 36 parallel to horizontal partition line 27, and it, too, will parallel the edge of tile 1 that will be defined by horizontal partition line 27. Partition line 24 will pass through and partition shape 32, thereby resulting in a portion of shape 32 that is a rectangle ending up on each of tile 1 and 2. The straight edge of shape 32 that will appear on each of tile 1 and 2 will not appear to be out of place.

Please replace paragraph [0029] with the following amended paragraph:

[0029] The background color A (in this instance, yellow) is tufted over the entirety of the carpet web 22. The patterns of the outer portions BC of the web 22 are further formed from alternating colors B and C (light green and dark green, respectively, in this embodiment). As explained above, the color of the yarn that is tufted with the greatest tuft height in the finished carpet tile is the more predominant color to the ordinary observer. Thus, creating patterns with colors B and C requires that the yarn be tufted so that the height of the yarn tufts of colors B and C varies with

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respect to each other. In other words, if a shape of color B is desired, then the yarn of color B is tufted to form yarn tufts that are higher than the surrounding yarn tufts formed by yarn of color C so that color B is more predominant than color C and thereby forms the pattern shape. Directly adjacent the outer portions BC, the patterns of middle portions CD are further formed from alternating colors C and D (dark green and blue, respectively, in this embodiment). Finally, the patterns of center portion DE are further formed from alternating colors D and E (blue and purple, respectively, in this embodiment).